



February 23, 2006

TO: Transportation Authority of Marin

FROM: Dianne Steinhauser, Executive Director

RE: Measure A Strategy 4, Crossing Guard Program – TAC and MPWA
Recommended Locations, Next Steps - Agenda Item 11

Dear Commissioners:

Executive Summary

The TAM Crossing Guard program will provide trained crossing guards for critical intersections throughout Marin County. The Public Works Directors and the Technical Advisory Committee have evaluated and prioritized the existing and requested crossing guard locations. Based on this process, they are recommending that the Authority provide funding for crossing guards at the 39 locations identified in the attached table, as a first phase to TAM's crossing guard efforts.

As discussed in the Expenditure Plan, the program will use trained crossing guards under contract to a professional company that specializes in crossing guard programs. A single contract with a professional crossing guard firm is envisioned for the program. Under contract to TAM, the selected firm will provide guards at locations approved by the TAM Board.

Recommendation: That the TAM Board authorize staff to conduct a contractor solicitation and selection process for providing crossing guards at the listed locations, as a first phase of the Measure A Crossing guard element. Staff will return to the May TAM Board meeting for final contract approval.

The TAM Crossing Guard program will provide trained crossing guards for Marin County's most critical intersections. The Marin Public Works Directors (MPWA) and the TAM Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) have adopted evaluation criteria and evaluated and prioritized the existing and requested crossing guard locations. Based on this process, they are recommending that the crossing guard locations identified in the attached table be funded under the Program. These crossing guard locations, if approved by the TAM Board, will be the basis for a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a contractor to provide crossing guard staff. TAM staff will issue the RFP in March 2006 and will bring a contractor recommendation to the Board in May 2006. The Crossing Guard Program is scheduled to be implemented this fall, at the start of the 2006–07 school year.

In May 2005 a survey was sent to all Marin schools and local jurisdictions requesting input on recommended locations for crossing guards. On September 22, 2005 TAM approved a contract

with PHA Transportation Consultants to provide school pedestrian and vehicle count data collection at the locations recommended in the survey.

At meetings on November 17, 2005 and January 19, 2006, the MPWA and the TAC reviewed the California Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), *Part 7 Traffic Controls for School Areas* and a summary of the Caltrans *Criteria for Adult Crossing Guards*. This criterion is generally used by communities in California to determine if a crossing guard would be warranted and cost effective at a location. The MPWA and the TAC also reviewed the school pedestrian and vehicle count data for each of the recommended locations identified in the school crossing guard survey. At their January meetings, both the MPWA and the TAC reached consensus on the criterion for selection of Measure A crossing guards. Application of the criterion to the school pedestrian and vehicle counts data for both morning and afternoon time periods, resulted in the identification of 23 locations. Application of the criterion to either the morning or afternoon data, resulted in an additional 16 locations. These 39 locations are identified in the attached table. Staff estimates that at least 60 crossing guards can be provided annually based on sales tax revenue projections and current cost estimates. There would be a balance of 21 potential crossing guard locations to be funded in the second phase of data collection and analysis.

On February 1, 2006, the recommendations of the TAC and MPWA were presented to the Marin County Superintendents of Schools. At that meeting, the school superintendents agreed to assist the County Office of Education with the redistribution of the Crossing Guard Questionnaire to schools that had not responded to the June 2005 information request. The survey is also being sent to private schools and local jurisdictions. Responses to the questionnaire were requested to be submitted to TAM by February 28, 2006. For new locations identified in the questionnaire, an addendum to the PHA contract will be brought to TAM for additional school pedestrian and vehicle count data, to be collected during May 2006. Following the data collection, the locations will be evaluated and prioritized by the MPWA and the TAC using the above criterion. The MPWA and TAC recommendations will be brought to the TAM Board for approval and incorporation into the Crossing Guard contract.

As suggested by the Executive Committee at the January 2006 meeting, schools that have existing crossing guards at locations that have been recommended for the TAM program will be contacted regarding participation in the TAM Crossing Guard program. For locations that are currently staffed by volunteers, school employees or other professional (hired) guards, the opportunity to augment these services under the TAM Crossing Guard Program would be available, allowing the schools' resources to be re-allocated to other locations or to other uses consistent with TAM's overall goal of providing safer access to schools, such as participation in the Safe Routes to School program. If the school or School District decides to continue with their current program at the approved location(s), the school would not be included in the RFP for a crossing guard contractor.

Also discussed at the Executive Committee in January 2006 was the term of the crossing guard contract. It was recommended that a 3-year commitment to the recommended locations that meet the MPWA/TAC criteria be made, and that crossing guard locations be reassessed on a 3 to 6 year cycle based on updated pedestrian and vehicle count data.

The crossing guard locations recommended by MPWA and the TAC were presented to the Executive Committee as an information item at their February 8, 2006 meeting.

Recommendation: That the TAM Board authorize staff to conduct a contractor solicitation and selection process for providing crossing guards at the listed locations, as a first phase of the Measure A Crossing guard element. Staff will return to the May TAM Board meeting for final contract approval.

Attachments:

- A. Recommended Crossing Guard locations

Crossing Guard Location Recommendations			
Transportation Authority of Marin 2006			
Number	Location Street - City	School District	School
1	SFD Blvd & Laurel Grove Ave Kentfield	KENTFIELD	Kent Middle School Bacich Elementary School
2	College Ave & Woodland Ave Kentfield		Kent Middle School Bacich Elementary School
3	College Ave at Stadium Way Kentfield		Kent Middle School
4	Corte Madera & Tamalpais Dr Corte Madera	LARKSPUR	Neil Cummins School
5	Mohawk, in front of Neil Cummins School Corte Madera		Neil Cummins School
6	Tam Racket Club & Doherty Rd Larkspur		Hall Middle School
7	Tamalpais Dr & Eastman Ave Corte Madera		Neil Cummins School
8	Magnolia Ave & King St. Larkspur		Hall Middle School Redwood High School
9	E. Strawberry Dr. & Strawberry School Marin County	MVSD	Strawberry Point School
10	Throckmorton Ave & Old Mill St Mill Valley		Old Mill School
11	East Blithedale and Lomita Ave Mill Valley		Mill Valley Middle School Park School
12	Camino Alto and Sycamore Ave. Mill Valley		Mill Valley Middle School
13	Center Road & Wilson Ave Novato	NUSD	Lu Sutton Elementary School Sinaloa Middle School
14	Center Road & Leland Dr Novato		Lu Sutton Elementary School
15	S Novato Blvd & Sunset Pkwy Novato		Lynwood Elementary School
16	Sutro Ave & Dominic Dr Novato		Pleasant Valley Elementary School
17	Arthur & Cambridge St Novato		Rancho Elementary School Novato High School
18	S Novato Blvd & Yukon Way Novato		Rancho Elementary School Novato High School
19	San Marin Dr & San Ramon Way Novato		San Ramon Elementary School San Marin High School
20	Diablo Ave between Hill and Center Novato		Hill Middle School
21	Alameda Loma & Calla Mesa Novato		Loma Verde Elementary School
22	Paladini & Vineyard (@ school) Novato		Sinaloa Middle School
23	Wilson & Vineyard Novato		Sinaloa Middle School
24	Blackfield Dr & Tiburon Blvd Tiburon	REED	Bel Aire School Strawberry Point School
25	Avenida Mireflores & Tiburon Blvd Tiburon		Del Mar School
26	Tiburon Blvd & Lyford Dr Tiburon		Reed School
27	Trestle Glen & Tiburon Blvd Tiburon		Del Mar School
28	Lagunitas & Allen Avenue Ross	ROSS	Ross Elementary School
29	Ross Common & Lagunitas Ross		Ross Elementary School
30	Lagunitas & SDF Blvd Ross		Ross Elementary School
31	Green Valley Court & Butterfield Sleepy Hollow	ROSS VALLEY	Brookside School
32	Oak Manor & SFD Blvd Fairfax		Manor Elementary School
33	W Castlewood Dr & Knight Dr San Rafael	SRES	Glenwood Elementary School
34	117 N San Pedro Road (in front of school) San Rafael		Gallinas Elementary School Phoenix Academy
35	Happy Lane & Fifth Ave San Rafael		Sun Valley Elementary School
36	Woodland Ave & Siebel San Rafael		Laurel Dell Elementary School Davidson Middle School
37	Las Gallinas and Miller Creek Rd Marin Wood	DIXIE	M. Silveria Elementary School Miller Creek Middle School
38	Arias Street & Nova Albion Way San Rafael		Vallecito Elementary School Terra Linda High School
39	Nova Albion Way (@ Vallecito School) San Rafael		Terra Linda High School